

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-20 are pending. Claims 1, 2 and 4-14 are under examination. Without addressing the merits of the rejections set forth in the Office Action mailed April 1, 2008, Applicants have amended the claims without prejudice to Applicants pursuing the original claims in a related application. New claims 21-24 have been added. Support for the amendments and new claims can be found throughout the specification and the claims as filed. In particular, support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found, for example, in Example 15 and in particular in Table 1 and paragraph [0221]. Support for the amendment to claim 3 can be found, for example, in paragraph [0036]. Support for new claim 22 can be found, for example, in paragraph [0183]. Support for new claims 23 and 24 can be found, for example, in paragraph [0220]. Accordingly, these amendments and new claims do not raise an issue of new matter and entry thereof is respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Hatakeyama et al., Front. Sci. Ser. 29:173-174 (2000), is respectfully traversed. Without addressing the merits of the rejection as set forth in the Office Action, Applicants nevertheless respectfully submit that the rejection has been rendered moot by the amendment to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 11, 12 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly anticipated by Souness et al., Steroids 67:195-201 (2002), is respectfully traversed. Without addressing the merits of the rejection as set forth in the Office Action, Applicants nevertheless respectfully submit that the rejection has been rendered moot by the amendment to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1, 2 and 4-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly obvious over Souness et al., *supra*, Hatakeyama et al., *supra*, Bennett et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,998,148, and Baracchini et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,801,154, is respectfully traversed. Without addressing the merits of the rejection as set forth in the Office Action, Applicants nevertheless respectfully submit that the rejection has been rendered moot by the amendment to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

In light of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicants submit that the claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request a notice to this effect. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if there are any questions.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502624 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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